GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Department - Diversion of 13.65 ha. of forest land in Compartment No.393 of Ravuru RF, Mocherla Beat, Ongole Range in Giddalur Division of Andhra Pradesh for Rail connectivity to Ramayapatnam Port, Andhra Pradesh in favour of Chief Executive Officer, A.P. Maritime Board, Kakinada – Permission Accorded – Orders – Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (Section-II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.MS.No. 25 **Dated: 15-04-2025**
Read the following:-

1)From the PCCF & HoFF, Lr.Rc.No.EFS02-15024/1/2020-FCA-SEC-PCCF/FCA-3, dated 10.10.2023.
2)State Govt. Letter No.2336/Section-II/2023/2242301, E.F.S. & T. (Sec.II) Dept., dated 31.10.2023.
3)From the GoI, MoEF & CC, Sub-Office at Vijayawada of the Regional Office, Chennai, online proposal No.FP/AP/RAIL/404847/2022, dated 12.02.2024.
4)From the PCCF & HoFF, A.P., Lr.Ref.No.EFS02-15034/1/2018-FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-3, dated 24.02.2025.
5)State Govt.Lr.No.2336/Sec.II/2023/2242301, EFS&T(Sec.II) Dept., dated 04.03.2025.
6)From the GoI, MoEF&CC, Sub-office at Vijayawada of the Regional Office, Chennai, online proposal No.FP/AP/RAIL/404847/2022, dated 24.03.2025.

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ORDER:

In the letter 1st read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, has submitted a statutory proforma proposal seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2(1) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, for diversion of 13.65 ha. of forest land in Compartment No.393 of Ravuru RF, Mocherla Beat, Ongole Range in Giddalur Division of Andhra Pradesh for Rail connectivity to Ramayapatnam Port, Andhra Pradesh in favour of Chief Executive Officer, A.P. Maritime Board, Kakinada.

2. In the letter 2nd read above, the proposal of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, was sent to the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Sub-office at Vijayawada of the Regional Office, Chennai, for according in-principle approval under Section 2 (1) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

3. In the letter 3rd read above, the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Sub-office at Vijayawada of the Regional Office, Chennai, after obtaining certain additional information, has accorded in-principle approval under Section 2(1) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, and has requested to submit the compliance report on the conditions stipulated therein within the stipulated time for final approval.

4. In the letter 4th read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, has furnished compliance report on the conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval for onward submission to the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Sub-Office at Vijayawada of the Regional Office, Chennai, for the issue of final approval for the above proposal. The same has been forwarded to the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Sub-Office at Vijayawada of the Regional Office, Chennai, for the grant of final approval under Section 2(1) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, vide letter in the 5th read above.

5. In the letter 6th read above, the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Sub-office at Vijayawada of Regional Office, Chennai, has accorded final approval under Section 2(1) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, for diversion of 13.65 ha. of forest land in Compartment No.393 of Ravuru RF, Mocherla Beat, Ongole Range in Giddalur Division of Andhra Pradesh for Rail connectivity to Ramayapatnam Port, Andhra Pradesh in favour of Chief Executive Officer, A.P. Maritime Board, Kakinada, subject to certain conditions stipulated therein.

6. Government, after careful examination of the proposal, hereby accord permission to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, for diversion of 13.65 ha. of forest land in Compartment No.393 of Ravuru RF, Mocherla Beat, Ongole Range in Giddalur Division of Andhra Pradesh for Rail connectivity to Ramayapatnam Port, Andhra Pradesh in favour of Chief Executive Officer, A.P. Maritime Board, Kakinada, subject to the following conditions:-

1. General Condition

S.No.	Conditions
1.1	Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
1.2	The User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum number in the diverted forest land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department and the cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department;
1.3	The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of lease to be granted in favour of the user agency or the project life, whichever is less.
1.4	No labour camp shall be established on the forest land by the State Government;
1.5	No additional or new paths will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
1.6	The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal;
1.7	The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 13.65 ha.
1.8	The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department, or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
1.9	No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused;
1.10	The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
1.11	User Agency shall obtain the Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable;
1.12	The concerned Divisional Forest Officer, will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forest in the surrounding area.
1.13	The User Agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government and Regional Office by the end of March every year;
1.14	The user agency shall comply with all the provisions of all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order (s) and NGT Order (s)

	pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project;
1.15	The State Government shall ensure settlement of rights under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of forest Rights) Acts, 2006, before issue of working permission and diversion as case may be;
1.16	Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of Forest and Wildlife;
1.17	Violation of any of these conditions will amounts to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed under the Act, Rules and Guidelines relevant.

2. Standard conditions

S.No.	Conditions
2.1	The State Government shall ensure controlled speed limit if the trains passing through the forest portion to enable the trains drivers to react to the sudden appearance of the wild animals on the track. As and when required speed of train shall be regulated in consultation with Chief Wildlife Warden of the State Government;
2.2	The user agency will provide retaining walls, breast walls and drainage as per requirement to make the slope stable;
2.3	The User agency will undertake comprehensive soil conservation measures at the project cost in consultation with the State Forest Department;
2.4	The designing of culverts/bridges, if any, over the natural streams/rivers/canals should be done in such a manner that it does not hamper the natural course of water, does not give rise to water-logging, and also does not hamper movement of wild animals;
2.5	If required, provision for construction of sufficient underpasses for safe crossing of animal shall be made in consultation with Chief Wildlife Warden.

3. Specific Conditions

S.No.	Conditions
3.1	Compensatory afforestation shall be taken up as per the approved CA scheme in the degraded forest land over an extent of 16.38 ha identified in Sy.No. 430, Bodavada RF, Prakasam Forest Division.
3.2	The compensatory afforestation scheme, as approved, shall be implemented by the State Forest Department at the project cost within a period of two years from the date of grant of 'Final' approval.
3.3	The State Forest Department shall take up avenue plantation of 2 rows on both sides of the railway line at the cost of User Agency.

7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, shall take further necessary action in the matter accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

G. ANANTHA RAMU
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force,
Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri, Guntur District.

Copy to:

1.The Chief Executive Officer, National Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority, 4th Floor, Block No.3, CGO Complex, New Delhi – 110 003.

2. The Inspector General of Forests,
ROHQ, MoEF&CC, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan,
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi – 110 003.

3. The Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central),
GoI, MoEF&CC, Sub-office at Vijayawada of
Regional Office, Chennai, Green House Complex,
Gopal Reddy Road, Vijayawada – 520 010.

4.The Chief Executive Officer, A.P.Maritime Board, Government of AP, P.B.No.11, Port Administrative Building, Kakinada.

5. SC/SF

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER